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1625/19

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **HIDAKA, Haretaro et al.**

Group Art Unit: 1725

Serial No.: 10/058,223

Examiner: **Kiley Shawn STONER**

Filed: **January 29, 2002**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 2225

**FOR: INTEGRATED PIPING PLATE, MACHINING METHOD FOR SAME,  
MACHINING APPARATUS FOR SAME, AND MACHINING EQUIPMENT FOR  
SAME**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 20, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached, together with copies of the first and second Office Action issued by the Japanese Patent Office.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action or a Notice of Allowance. A check is attached hereto which covers the \$ 180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the

documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,  
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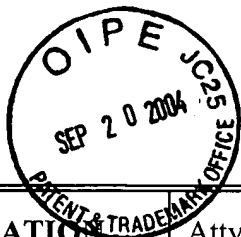
WGK/nrp  
Atty. Docket No. **020096**  
Suite 1000  
1725 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: First and Second Official Actions issued by the Japanese Patent Office  
PTO-1449  
References (4)  
Check for \$ 180.00



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449</b>	Atty. Docket No. 020096	Serial No. 10/058,223
	Applicant(s): <b>HIDAKA, Haretaro et al.</b>	
	Filing Date: <b>January 29, 2002</b>	Group Art Unit: <b>1725</b>

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____ AF 49-13651	4/02/74	Japan	
_____ AG 10-193140	7/28/98	Japan	Abstract only
_____ AH			
_____ AI			
_____ AJ			

### OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AK	"Welding & Metal Fabrication", Vol. 63, January 1995, pp. 13, 14 and 16.
_____	AL	"Welding Technique", Vol. 49, 2001, p. 48.

Examiner	Date Considered
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